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General

Spain is located in SW Europe. It is bound on the N side by the Bay of Biscay, France, and Andorra; on the E side by the Mediterranean Sea; on the S side by the Strait of Gibraltar and Gibraltar; and on the W side by the North Atlantic Ocean and Portugal.

The climate is temperate with clear, hot summers in the interior, and becomes more moderate and cloudy along the coast. Spain has cloudy, cold winters in the interior, and becomes partly cloudy and cool along the coast.

The terrain has large, flat to dissected plateaus surrounded by rugged hills.

Buoyage System

The IALA Buoyage System (Region A) is in effect. See chart No. 1 for further IALA Buoyage System information.

Currency

The official unit of currency is the peseta, consisting of 100 centimos.

Firing Areas

Area LE-D30A

Limited by the parallels of 43°28'N and 43°46'N, and by the meridians of 8°27'W and 8°57'W.

Area LE-D30B

Limited by the parallels of 42°10'N and 42°30'N, and by the meridians of 9°10'W and 9°40'W.

Area LE-D30C

Limited by the parallels of 43°29'N and 43°30'N, and by the meridians of 8°17'W and 8°20'W.

Area LE-D31

Bounded by lines joining the following positions:

- 36°29'N, 6°30'W.
- 36°07'N, 6°15'W.
- 36°00'N, 6°30'W.
- 36°20'N, 6°45'W.

Area LE-D99

Bounded by lines joining the following positions:

- 36°28'N, 6°13'W.
- 36°27'N, 6°15'W.
- 36°17'N, 6°22'W.
- 36°07'N, 6°15'W.
- 36°06'N, 6°07'W.
- 36°16'N, 6°07'W.

Area LE-D117

Bounded by lines joining the following positions:

- 37°09'00"N, 6°45'00"W

- b. 36° 56'50"N, 6° 34'10"W.
- c. 36° 50'33"N, 6° 43'03"W
- d. 37° 05'37"N, 7° 01'37"W
- e. 37° 09'00"N, 6° 45'00"W

Area LE-D118

Bounded by lines joining the following positions:

- a. 37° 05'37"N, 7° 01'37"W
- b. 36° 50'33"N, 6° 43'03"W
- c. 36° 20'00"N, 7° 21'30"W
- d. 37° 02'30"N, 7° 21'30"W
- e. 37° 05'37"N, 7° 01'37"W

Area LE-D119

Bounded by lines joining the following positions:

- a. 37° 39'00"N, 6° 45'00"W.
- b. 36° 56'50"N, 6° 34'10"W
- c. 36° 20'00"N, 7° 21'30"W
- d. 36° 55'30"N, 7° 21'30"W
- e. 37° 05'00"N, 7° 07'10"W
- f. 37° 09'00"N, 6° 45'00"W

Area LE-D40

A sector of about 12 miles in extent lying between the bearings 210° and 267°, is centered 36°27.5'N, 6°15.2'W.

Area GC-D34

Limited by the parallels of 27°20'N and 27°40'N, and the meridians of 15°30'W and 15°50'W.

Air Exercises

Aircraft firing exercises may take place in the following areas:

1. **Area LE-D44**—Bounded by lines joining the following positions:

- a. 37°00'N, 7°07'W.
- b. 37°09'N, 6°45'W.
- c. 36°50'N, 6°32'W.
- d. 36°15'N, 6°45'W.
- e. 36°24'N, 7°22'W.

2. **Area LE-D122**—Bounded by lines joining the following positions:

- a. 36° 20'00"N, 7° 21'30"W
- b. 36° 13'30"N, 6° 38'00"W
- c. 35° 51'30"N, 6° 42'30"W
- d. 35° 57'00"N, 7° 21'30"W
- e. 36° 20'00"N, 7° 21'30"W

3. **Area LE-D123**—Bounded by lines joining the following positions:

- a. 38° 05'00"N, 7° 00'00"W
- b. 37° 49'00"N, 6° 24'00"W.
- c. 37° 41'00"N, 6° 36'00"W
- d. 37° 35'00"N, 6° 23'00"W
- e. 37° 23'00"N, 6° 36'00"W
- f. 37° 20'00"N, 6° 54'00"W
- g. 37° 18'00"N, 7° 03'00"W
- h. 37° 21'00"N, 7° 27'00"W

4. **Area LE-D124**—Bounded by lines joining the following positions:

- a. 38° 05'00"N, 7° 00'00"W
- b. 37° 49'00"N, 6° 24'00"W
- c. 37° 19'00"N, 7° 10'00"W
- d. 37° 21'00"N, 7° 27'00"W

5. **Area LE-D128**—Bounded by lines joining the following positions:

- a. 36° 56'30"N, 6° 34'06"W
- b. 36° 51'18"N, 6° 29'18"W
- c. 36° 13'18"N, 6° 38'00"W
- d. 36° 14'18"N, 6° 43'02"W
- e. 36° 50'20"N, 6° 43'02"W
- f. 36° 56'30"N, 6° 34'06"W

6. **Area LE-D129**—Bounded by lines joining the following positions:

- a. 36° 50'20"N, 6° 43'02"W
- b. 36° 14'18"N, 6° 43'02"W
- c. 36° 20'00"N, 7° 21'18"W
- d. 36° 50'20"N, 6° 43'02"W

7. **Area LE-D64**—Limited by the parallels 36°20'N and 36°29'N, and the meridians 6°25'W and 6°12'W.

8. **Area LE-D88**—Bounded by lines joining the following positions:

- a. 37°03'N, 7°15'W.
- b. 37°01'N, 6°59'W.
- c. 36°38'N, 7°15'W.
- d. 36°38'N, 6°59'W.

9. **Area GC-D74**—Bounded by lines joining the following positions:

- a. 28°21'N, 16°23'W.
- b. 28°16'N, 16°23'W.
- c. 28°15'N, 16°15'W.
- d. 28°20'N, 16°15'W.

Rocket Firing

Rocket firing exercises may take place in the following areas:

1. **Area F131**—Limited by the parallels of 43°49.5'N and 43°48.5'N and the meridians of 7°58.5'W and 8°01.5'W.

2. **Area E133**—Bounded by lines joining the following positions:

- a. 36°19'25"N, 6°24'15"W.
- b. 36°19'53"N, 6°21'56"W.
- c. 36°18'17"N, 6°21'25"W.
- d. 36°18'05"N, 6°23'48"W.

Surface and Anti-Aircraft

The following are permanent areas for surface and anti-aircraft firing practice:

1. **Area LE-D22** (South of Cartagena)—An area between the parallels 37°13'N and 36°56'N and the meridians 1°15'W and 0°45'W.

2. **Area LE-D103** (Around Isla de Cabrera)—An area between the parallels 39°13'N and 39°07'N and the meridians 2°52'E and 3°05'E.

3. **Area M-134** (South of Cartagena)—Depth charge exercises may take place within a circle of 2 miles radius centered 37°27'N, 1°00'W.

4. **Area M-135** (Islas Columbretes)—Rocket firings may occur in an area between the parallels 39°54.8'N and 39°53.1'N and the meridians 0°40.3'E and 0°40.8'E.

Mine Sweeping

Mine sweeping exercises may take place near Islas Baleares within the following areas:

1. **Area M-21**—An area bounded by the SW coast of Isla de Mallorca, the parallel 39°05'N, and the meridians 2°24'E and 2°49'E.

2. **Area M-22**—An area bounded by the E coast of Isla de Mallorca, the parallels 39°30'N and 40°00'N, and the meridian 3°49'E.

Naval Air Exercises

Naval air exercises may occur within the following areas:

1. **Area LE-D21** (Around Islas Columbretes)—A circle of 10 miles radius centered on 39°51.1'N, 0°40.3'E.

2. **Area LE-D56** (Northeast of Gibraltar)—A circle of 5 miles radius centered on 36°15.5'N, 4°59.5'W.

3. **Area LE-D58** (East of Ceuta)—An area between the parallels 35°45'N and 35°51'N and the meridians 4°42'W and 5°00'W.

4. **Area LE-D95** (Southwest of Isla de Ibiza)—An area bounded by a line joining the following positions:

- 38°35'N, 1°07'E.
- 38°25'N, 1°27'E.
- 37°40'N, 0°52'E.
- 37°57'N, 0°18'E.
- 38°25'N, 0°33'E.

The operations within the different exercise areas mentioned above will be announced in local broadcasts of navigational warnings or published in local notice to mariners.

Fishing Areas

Tunny Nets

Each tunny net, when submerged, is usually marked, as follows:

- By day—A boat or buoy surmounted by a white flag with a black "A" in its center marks the outer end of the net and a boat or buoy with a similar flag marks the center of the net.
- By night—Two vertical red lights, visible 2 miles, are shown from the central boat or buoy and the outer boat or buoy shows a red light above a white light.

It has been reported (1998) that tunny net installations will be marked at the outer points of the installations by lighted buoys.

Government

The government is a parliamentary monarchy. The capital is Madrid.

Spain controls the coastal enclaves of Ceuta and Melilla, in Morocco, in addition to the islands of Penon de Velez de la Gomera, Penon de Alhucemas, and Islas Chafarinas.

Spain includes the Balearic Islands in the Mediterranean Sea and the Canary Islands in the North Atlantic Ocean. The principal islands of the Balearic group are Majorca, Minorca, Ibiza, Formentera, and Cabrera. The principal islands of the Canary Archipelago are Tenerife, La Palma, Gomera, Hierro, Grand Canary, Fuerteventura, and Lanzarote.

Holidays

The following holidays are observed:

Jan. 1, New Year's Day; Jan. 6, Epiphany; March 19, St. Joseph's Day; Good Friday; Easter Monday; May 1, Labor Day; Corpus Christi; June 29, St. Peter and St. Paul; July 16, Merchant Marine Holiday; July 25, St. James Day; August 15, Assumption of B.V. Mary; Oct. 12, National Day; Nov. 1, All Saint's Day; Dec. 8, Immaculate Conception; and Dec. 25, Christmas Day. In addition, two or more local holidays are usually celebrated in each locality. Autonomous provinces may celebrate certain local holidays instead of some of the general holidays.

Industries

The main industries include textiles and apparel, food and beverages, metals, chemicals, shipbuilding, automobiles, machine tools, and tourism.

Languages

Spanish is the official language.

Regulations

Access to Spanish ports may be prohibited, or subject to certain regulations, due to naval maneuvers, exercises, or other causes, as follows:

- A warning signal will be shown from a conspicuous position. By day, three balls will be disposed vertically. By night, three red lights will be disposed vertically.
- The same signals will be shown by the watch vessels.
- Vessels wishing to enter or leave Spanish waters when the above signals are displayed must:
 - By day: display the pilot flag and await the arrival of a watch vessel.
 - By night: burn one or many Bengal lights, also sound a siren or whistle, and await the arrival of a watch vessel.
- If a watch vessel hails or fires a gun, a vessel must immediately stop or heave to.
- Vessels will, if the occasion arises, submit to a visit from the watch vessel, which will provide the following information:
 - If a special examination service is established and where it is to be found.

- b. If the port is closed and, if so, for how long.
- c. If there are any special directions for the navigation of any part of the port.
- 6. Necessary instructions will be provided, or the examination made, to vessels leaving the port by the Naval authorities, within the port.
- 7. Masters of vessels not complying with these regulations do so at their risk and peril, and are liable for any damage they may cause.

Signals

The following signals may be displayed in Spanish ports:

Day signal	Night signal	Meaning
Black cylinder	White light over red light over white light, vertically disposed	Local gale or strong wind. All boat traffic suspended.
Black triangle, point down, over black triangle, point up	White light over two red lights, vertically disposed	Moderate gale. Port closed to fishing vessels and small craft.

Special Areas

Explosives Dumping Grounds and Depth Charges Areas

Area F130

Circular area with a radius of 3 miles centered on 43°45'N, 9°02'W.

Area F132

Circular area with a radius of 0.8 mile centered on 36°14.6'N, 6°49.2'W.

Area C136

Circular area with a radius of 3 miles centered on 28°09'N, 15°10'W.

Diving Exercises

Diving exercises are held in the following areas:

1. **Area E51**—Circular area with a radius of 0.6 mile centered on 36°36'N, 6°29'W.
2. **Area E52**—Circular area with a radius of 1.5 miles centered on 36°35'N, 6°18'W.
3. **Area E53**—Circular area with a radius of 1.5 miles centered on 36°29'N, 6°20'W.
4. **Area E54**—Circular area with a radius of 1.5 miles centered on 36°23'N, 6°16'W.

Submarine Operating Areas

Submarine operating areas are described below. Some of these areas are shown on the charts. Spanish submarines may

be found conducting exercises off the E coast of Spain between Cabo de San Sebastian and Cabo de Gata, in an area located between the coast and a line connecting the following points:

- a. 41°54'N, 3°14'E.
- b. 41°50'N, 3°20'E.
- c. 38°44'N, 0°22'E.
- d. 36°56'N, 0°34'W.
- e. 36°43'N, 0°52'W.
- f. 36°43'N, 2°11'W.

Submarine and anti-submarine exercises

Submarine and anti-submarine exercises are conducted in the vicinity of Cantabrico in an area bounded by a line joining the following positions:

- a. 43°35'N, 10°04'W.
- b. 43°13'N, 9°37'W.
- c. 44°23'N, 7°45'W.
- d. 44°47'N, 8°12'W.

Submarine and anti-submarine exercises are conducted in the vicinity of the Strait of Gibraltar, as follows:

1. **Area SA**—An area bounded, as follows:
 - a. North limit, territorial waters.
 - b. East limit, territorial waters.
 - c. South limit, 36°34.0'N.
 - d. West limit, 7°17.0'W.
2. **Area SB**—An area bounded, as follows:
 - a. North limit, 36°34.0'N.
 - b. East limit, territorial waters.
 - c. South limit, 36°22.0'N.
 - d. West limit, 7°17.0'W.
3. **Area SC**—An area bounded by a line joining the following positions:
 - a. 36°22.00'N, 7°17.0'W.
 - b. 36°22.00'N, 6°28.3'W.
 - c. 36°00.00'N, 7°17.0'W.
 - d. 36°01.15'N, 6°08.0'W.

Visual signals

Spanish naval vessels hoist the International Code group "NE 2" to indicate the proximity of submarines which may be submerged. Vessels in such cases ought to steer so as to give a wide berth to the vessels flying this signal.

If for whatever cause it were necessary to approach them, they ought to approach at slow speed maintaining at all times a good watch for submarines whose presence might only be indicated by the periscopes or bubbles emerging from the water.

Radio Signals

In certain circumstances notices that maneuvers are being carried out in specified zones may be broadcast.

Navigation Lights

It is possible to meet very frequently at night submarines on the surface in the vicinity of Cartagena and in the area between Cabo de Gata and Cabo de la Nao.

The lights on submarines can be confusing since these lights are necessarily in a very low position and too close together to be able to calculate the length of the submarine and its true direction or change of direction, and therefore can easily be

confused with a much smaller vessel of the coastal type or even a fishing boat.

Sunken Submarines

Sunken submarines, unable to surface, will attempt to indicate their position by means of a telephone buoy.

Spanish submarines are provided with two telephone buoys, one at each end of the vessel, that can be released from inside the boat in case of necessity, or when, for whatever reason, the submarine may be viewed as incapable of surfacing.

The telephone buoys are metallic, one at the bow (painted yellow and light orange) and the other at the stern (painted yellow). The diameter is about 90cm and in its middle carries a white light that may be switched on from inside the submarine.

For purposes of identification there is on the buoy a thin metal plate engraved with the name and notice to the authorities. Rescue workers are asked to remove the top and follow the instructions inside.

The telephone buoys are secured to the submarine by a cable not longer than 125m. On finding a telephone buoy in waters deeper than 150m, it can be assumed that it is adrift, and it also should be reported as soon as possible.

Submerged submarines who cannot release the telephone buoys can signal by letting fuel oil or lubricant escape or by releasing air.

In all submarine accidents time is a decisive factor in regard to the chances of saving the survivors, therefore the finding of an indicator buoy ought to be taken as a warning of having discovered a real accident and of not letting any time be lost in taking appropriate measures. When a buoy of this kind is found, the first step to take is to report the discovery by the most rapid means available. If possible the name of the submarine should be listed in the reports that are sent.

In order that those in the submarine may be informed that assistance is on the way, naval vessels will drop small charges that can be heard from the inside. The use of small charges in these cases is perfectly acceptable, but it is absolutely essential that they not be dropped too close, since those that are just emerging could easily suffer fatal wounds because of extreme sensitivity to the submarine explosions. A distance of 0.25 mile is considered adequate. If not equipped with small charges, an acoustic sounder can be turned on or the hull of the vessel may be struck with an iron maul beneath the water line. These signals can normally be heard from inside a submarine and should be made at frequent intervals.

It is possible that a buoy has accidentally become unfastened without the submarine having actually sunk. In any case it is

very important to determine conclusively if the telephone buoy is actually adrift or not. If something else cannot be done, it is permitted to lower a boat to verify the weight of the cable by hand. Extreme caution is recommended since it is absolutely essential that the cable not be broken.

In no case should the boat be secured to the buoy nor should it circle the cable, once it has been proved that the buoy is attached to the disabled submarine.

If it is found to be adrift, it shall not be considered as an indication that all is in order and that nothing has occurred, since the cable could have been broken and floating adrift after deliberate release from a submarine as a result of an accident.

All ships finding themselves in the presence of a telephone buoy of a submarine not adrift, will therefore remain and prepare to pick up survivors. These will emerge almost vertically so that it is very important to leave them sufficient free space to be able to do it without obstacles.

The survivors of a submarine accident may attempt their own rescue at any time after the accident. The internal conditions can worsen rapidly and such attempts will be delayed for only the time required to enable rescue boats to arrive at the disaster zone.

On their arrival at the surface the survivors may be exhausted or sick, so it is very helpful, if circumstances permit to have already lowered a boat to prepare to pick them up. Some will need to be taken to a decompression chamber and naval authorities will make efforts to transport with maximum urgency equipment of this type to the site of the disaster. Those still in the submarine should be informed that assistance is on the way.

The Spanish navy has a service in Cartagena for search and rescue operations. It is always available to render assistance. It is understood, nevertheless, that any vessel which at a determined moment may have evidence of a submarine disaster and goes into action in the sense of the given instructions, working quickly and with effectiveness, can render an important service and play a decisive role in the rescue. It will try according to the instructions written on the buoy to establish communication with the submarine.

Time Zone

The Time Zone description is ALPHA (-1).

U.S. Embassy

The U.S. Embassy is situated at Serrano 75, 28006 Madrid. The mailing address is APO AE 09642.